

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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UNBEATEN CARRIBEAN CAPPER DAZZLES IN GRADE III, \$275,000 DOGWOOD

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (Saturday, Sept. 25, 2021) – Columbine Stable’s **Caribbean Caper** swept three-wide on the turn to reel in the early leaders and drew away in the stretch for an easy six-length victory over **Someone Said So** in Saturday’s 46th running of the \$275,000 Dogwood (Grade III) at Churchill Downs to remain unbeaten in five starts.

Caribbean Caper ran seven furlongs in 1:22.57 over fast track under **Colby Hernandez**, who rode the winner for trainer **Al Stall Jr.**

“I was happy to see her leave the gate well and get to the outside,” Stall Jr. said. “She’s a really classy animal. I’m really proud to train her.”

This was the first graded stakes win for Caribbean Caper, who previously won the \$100,000 Audubon Oaks at Ellis Park in her stakes debut.

“We’ll probably take a look at the race at Keeneland (Grade II, \$250,000 Raven Run) on Oct. 23,” Stall Jr. said. “Even further down the road maybe we could look at something like the Grade I La Brea (on Dec. 26 at Santa Anita). Maybe in the future I could see her stretch out but right now she’s doing so well sprinting and we’ll try to keep her on that track.”

The \$60,570 first prize jumped Caribbean Caper’s earnings to \$238,060 from a record of 5-0-0 in five starts.

Sent off as the odds-on 2-5 favorite in the field of six 3-year-old fillies, Caribbean Caper paid \$2.80, \$2.20 and \$2.10. Someone Said So, a 10-1 longshot ridden by **Adam Beschiza**, returned \$6.40 and \$3. Malloy, also at 10-1 with **Joe Talamo** up, was 2 ¼ lengths back of the runner-up and paid \$3.20 to show.

Shesa Mystery, Patty H and **Coppelia** completed the order of finish. **Li’l Tootsie** was scratched.

Coppelia, breaking from the rail, and Patty H, from post No. 5, battled for the early lead down the backstretch through fractions of :22.42 and :44.88. Someone Said So rated just off the leaders and Caribbean Caper rated in the clear in fourth. Midway around the turn, Caribbean Caper dragged Hernandez to the front with a sweeping move. She poked her head in front at the top of the homestretch and easily put away her five rivals down the lane.

“She broke pretty well today and I was able to get her to the outside pretty easily,” Hernandez said. “I got her into a nice rhythm and she went on with it. Today’s race was all her. All I had to do was hang on.”

Caribbean Caper is a daughter of Speightstown out of the Dixie Union mare Checkupfromzneckup and was bred in Kentucky by **WinStar Farm**. She was purchased by Columbine Stable’s **Andrea Pollack** for \$250,000 at 2019 Keeneland September Yearling Sale from consignor **VanMeter-Gentry Sales**.

The Dogwood is named for the hardy, blooming tree that adds so much beauty to the spring landscape in Kentucky.

DOGWOOD QUOTES

Colby Hernandez, jockey of CARRIBEAN CAPER (winner): “She broke pretty well today and I was able to get her to the outside pretty easily. I got her into a nice rhythm and she went on with it. Today’s race was all her. All I had to do was hang on.”

Al Stall Jr., trainer of CARRIBEAN CAPER (winner): “I was happy to see her leave the gate well and get to the outside. She’s a really classy animal. I’m really proud to train her. We’ll probably take a look at the race at Keeneland (Grade II, \$250,000 Raven Run) on Oct. 23. Even further down the road maybe we could look at something like the Grade I La Brea (on Dec. 26 at Santa Anita). Maybe in the future I could see her stretch out but right now she’s doing so well sprinting and we’ll try to keep her on that track.”

KING FURY THROWS DOWN FEROIOUS 13-LENGTH WIN IN \$275,000 BOURBON TRAIL

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (Saturday, Sept. 25, 2021) – Fern Circle Stables and Three Chimney Farm LLC’s King Fury proved he was much the best in the inaugural running of the \$275,000 Bourbon Trail ® for 3-year-olds on Saturday at Churchill Downs as he widen his advantage without urging down the stretch en route to a 13-length romp over **Bourbon Thunder**.

Trained by **Kenny McPeek** and ridden by **Brian Hernandez Jr.**, King Fury covered the 1 3/16 miles on a fast main track in 1:56.01, just :04 off **Idol**’s 2020 track record of 1:55.97.

“He was really impressive today,” McPeek said. “We’re very proud of how he ran. He’s a really talented horse and showed that today.”

The field of seven sophomores was compact heading into the first turn as **King’s Ovation** emerged with a slight advantage over **Dr. Jack** through moderate early clips of :23.71 and :48.13. Heading onto the backstretch, King Fury was rated in sixth but was only a couple of lengths off the lead. After a half-mile, King Fury was advanced through a seam by Hernandez and drew within striking distance. Dr. Jack took over on the turn after six furlongs in 1:12.05 but King Fury loomed on the outside, took command leaving the final turn and powered home down the stretch as Hernandez sat still in the saddle except to throw a couple of crosses with the reins.

The victory was worth \$166,710 and increased King Fury’s earnings to \$579,449 with a record of 4-1-0 in 10 starts. Three of his wins have come at Churchill Downs, including a maiden win and stakes victory in the \$98,000 Street Sense last year as a 2-year-old.

Previously, King Fury finished fifth of seven in the Grade I, \$1.25 million Travers at Saratoga. Earlier this year, he won the \$200,000 Lexington (GIII) at Keeneland and finished second to **Masqueparade** in the \$500,000 Ohio Derby (GIII).

“With a horse like this, you just really have to stay out of their way,” Hernandez Jr. said. “He’s run in some tough races this year and today he was able to settle in nicely at the rail around the first turn and turning for home he got clear and was much the best.”

King Fury is a Kentucky-bred son of Curlin out of the Grade I-winning Flatter mare Taris and was bred by **Heider Family Stables**. Fern Circle Stables’ **Paul Fireman** paid \$950,000 to acquire King Fury at the 2019 Fasig-Tipton New York Saratoga Select Yearling Sale.

King Fury returned \$3, \$2.60 and \$2.10 as the odds-on 1-2 favorite. Bourbon Thunder, who rallied for second under **Chris Landeros**, returned \$4.20 and \$3.20 with Dr Jack finishing another 1 ¼ lengths back in third under **Tyler Gaffalione** and paying \$3 to show.

It was another 3 ¼ lengths back to **Sermononthemount**, who was followed in order by King’s Ovation, **Gagetown** and **Angkor**.

The Bourbon Trail ® honors the profound history and proud tradition of “America’s Official Native Spirit” when the Kentucky Distillers’ Association (KDA) established the Kentucky Bourbon Trail® in 1999, a road trip-style experience for bourbon lovers to visit the Bluegrass State’s signature distilleries.

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BOURBON TRAIL QUOTES

Brian Hernandez Jr., jockey of KING FURY (winner): “With a horse like this, you just really have to stay out of their way. He’s run in some tough races this year and today he was able to settle in nicely at the rail around the first turn and turning for home he got clear and was much the best.”

Greg Geier, assistant trainer of KING FURY (winner): “He was really impressive today. We’re very proud of how he ran. He’s a really talented horse and showed that today.”

Chris Landeros, jockey of BOURBON THUNDER (runner-up): “(King Fury) was much the best today. My horse ran well but he was just going to be second best to (King Fury).”

EVERETT'S SONG RALLIES TO WIN INAUGURAL \$275,000 HARRODS CREEK

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (Saturday, Sept. 25, 2021) – A fast early pace set up the closing late kick for **SAB Stable Inc.**'s Delaware Park invader **Everett's Song** as he rallied to a 2 ¾-length victory over **He'smyhoneybadger** in Saturday's first running of the \$275,000 Harrods Creek for 3-year-olds at Churchill Downs.

Everett's Song, trained by **Dale Bennett** and ridden by **Pablo Morales**, covered the seven furlongs on a fast track in 1:22.68 to give the trainer, jockey and ownership group, headed by **Diane Olsen**, their first wins at Churchill Downs.

The winner's share of \$162,525 increased Everett's Song's earnings to \$226,525 with a record of 3-1-0 in four starts.

The connections were considering Everett's Song for Saturday's Grade I, \$1 million Pennsylvania Derby over 1 1/8 miles at Parx – won by **Hot Rod Charlie** with **Midnight Bourbon** second – but prudently opted for the seven-furlong Harrods Creek instead.

"I owe it all to my owners for wanting to run in this spot," Bennett said. "I thought the distance would fit him just fine from his previous three races."

Dreamer's Disease led the field of 10 down the backstretch through swift early fractions of :21.81 and :44.61 with **Emerald Forest** tracking in second and Everett's Song in the clear well back in seventh. Leaving the turn, Everett's Song cut the margin in half and was one of six horses that appeared to have a chance to win with a furlong to run. The collapse of the fast pace benefitted Everett's Song as he surged to the front inside the final sixteenth of a mile and edged clear late.

"I knew I had a lot of horse underneath me," Morales said. "I feel like every time I asked him to run he would just take off. Coming around the turn, I couldn't wait to tip him out. Inside the final furlong he kept giving me more and more. I'm just extremely happy with his performance today and so thrilled for Dale and the owners. He's a really nice horse."

A maiden winner in July and three-length victor of a first-level allowance in August at Pimlico, Everett's Song returned \$27.60, \$11.40 and \$7.80 at odds of 12-1. **He'smyhoneybadger** rallied from second-to-last for second under **Martin Garcia** and paid \$12.60 and \$6.60 with last-to-third **Ram** finishing another length back in third and returning \$8.20 to show under **Rafael Bejarano**.

Bob's Edge, the tepid 3-1 favorite, was fourth and was followed by **Emerald Forest**, **Wolfie's Dynaghost**, **Flags Up**, **Dreamer's Disease**, **Shadow Matter** and St. Louis Derby runner-up **Irish Unity**.

Everett's Song was bred in Kentucky by **Maccabee Farm**. He is a gelded son of Liam's Map out of the Indian Charlie mare Pelipa.

"I still think he wants more distance," Bennett said. "I'm not sure what we'll end up doing next but we're really pleased with his effort today."

The race honors the neighborhood of Louisville centered near **Harrods Creek** at the intersection of River Road and Wolf Pen Branch Road. It is roughly bordered by the Ohio River to the west and US 42 to the east. Formerly an unincorporated community, it was designated a neighborhood of Louisville when the city merged with Jefferson County in 2003.

HARRODS CREEK QUOTES

Pablo Morales, jockey of EVERETT'S SONG (winner): "I knew I had a lot of horse underneath me. I feel like every time I asked him to run he would just take off. Coming around the turn, I couldn't wait to tip him out. Inside the final furlong he kept giving me more and more. I'm just extremely happy with his performance today and so thrilled for Dale and the owners. He's a really nice horse."

Dale Bennett, trainer of EVERETT'S SONG (winner): "We were thinking about running on the Pennsylvania Derby card (at Parx) because I still think he wants more distance. I owe it all to my owners for wanting to run in this spot. I thought the distance would fit him just fine from his previous three races. I'm not sure what we'll end up doing next but we're really pleased with his effort today."

Martin Garcia, jockey of HE'SMYHONEYBADGER (runner-up): "He ran a really good race. There was a lot of speed and he closed very well into the pace."

ABOUT CHURCHILL DOWNS RACETRACK

Churchill Downs Racetrack ("CDRT"), the world's most legendary racetrack, has been the home of The Kentucky Derby, the longest continually held annual sporting event in the United States, since 1875. Located in Louisville, CDRT features a series of themed race days during Derby Week, including the Kentucky Oaks, and conducts Thoroughbred horse racing during three race meets in the Spring, September, and the Fall. CDRT is located on 175 acres and has a one-mile dirt track, a 7/8-mile turf track, a stabling area, and provides seating for approximately 60,000 guests. The saddling paddock and the stable area has barns sufficient to accommodate 1,400 horses and a 114-room dormitory for backstretch personnel. CDRT also has a year-round simulcast wagering facility. www.ChurchillDowns.com.

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